

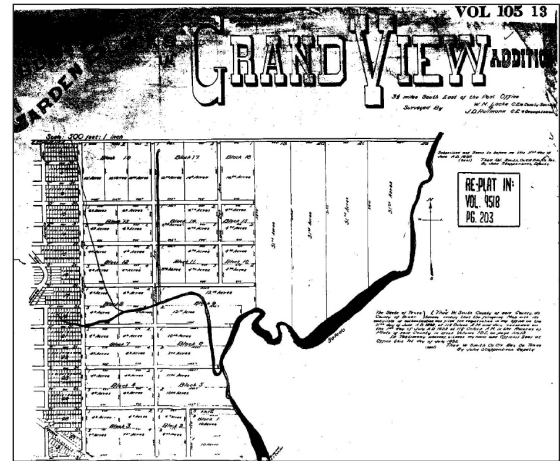
# FROM THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

The settlement of the Eastern Triangle can be traced as far back as the late 1800s by German, Silesian, Czech, Polish, and Belgian farmers and ranchers. Prior to 1944, the area was outside the city boundaries. Several major annexations occurred between 1944 and 2000 to incorporate the area into the City of San Antonio. The northeastern corner of the Eastern Triangle east of Rosillo Creek remains outside the City boundaries. The rural character of the Eastern Triangle remains predominant in the area. Many of the area streets and surrounding streets are named after the families that originally settled the area.

The southeastern edge of the Eastern Triangle was founded as Boldtville, Texas in 1891 at the corner of Foster Road and Sulphur Springs Road named after the Albert Boldt family. Boldtville consisted of two churches, a school, and a general store. Klondike's Store owned by Henry Klondike Stuckenberg was located at the northwest corner of Foster Road and Sulphur Springs Road. In 1932, Ed and Ruby Avery leased the store and renamed it Avery's General Store. They later purchased the store in the early 1940s, and ran the store until it closed in 1979. In its heyday, the store was a very popular attraction with a large sewing section, shoe department, and as a discount Levi's Jeans outlet. Students from the Boldtville School which is now the East Central Independent School District administrative offices located across the street would eat lunch at the store. The store still stands today although under new ownership. In addition, Boldt Road off of W. W. White is also named after the Boldt family.

W. W. White Road can be seen on Bexar County Maps as early as 1913. William W. White, a railroad roadmaster and farmer, owned approximately 150 acres of land around Salado Creek. W. W. White Elementary School once surrounded by William W. White's property was later named in his honor.

Semlinger, Willenbrock, Rauschuber, Sultenfuss, Theis, and Jupe were prominent landowners in the area. The Semlingers owned a dairy farm that was once located near the present day intersection of Semlinger Road and Loop 410. The Willenbrocks and Rauschubers farmed the eastern part of the present day Dellcrest subdivision. One of the streets in Dellcrest subdivision is named Wilenbrock in honor of the family that once lived and farmed in the area. The Sultenfuss family owned a large tract of land from W. W. White Rd to Rosillo Creek and from St. Clair, now Sinclair Road, to Southcross Boulevard. Marie Sultenfuss Bohle is the last of a large family



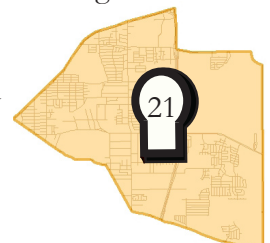
The Grandview plat recorded in 1892 in volume 105, page 13, of the Bexar County Plat and Deed Records shows some of the first properites in the Wheatley Heights area to be platted ranging in size from less than an acre to over forty acres.



Former Avery's General Store at Sulphur Springs and Foster



W. W. White Elementary School at Readwell and W. W. White



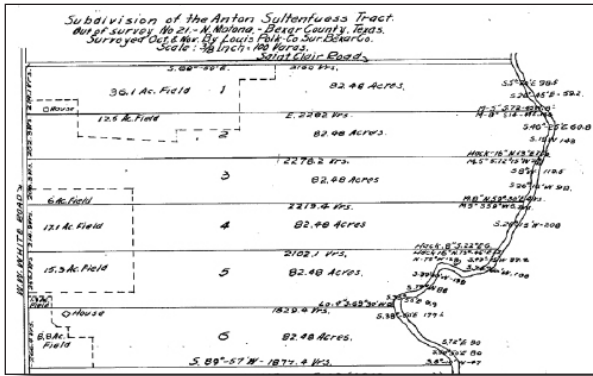
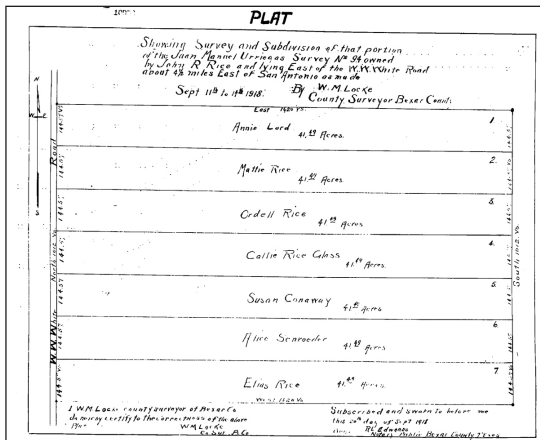


Exhibit showing the division of the Sultenfuss property recorded in 1922, volume 682, page 163, in the Bexar County Plat and Deed Records.



The plat of John R. Rice's property subdivided to his heirs in 1918, volume 368, page 215, in the Bexar County Plat and Deed Records.

that still lives on part of the original tract. The Theis family donated land west of W. W. White to the Highland Social Club which was established in 1927. True to the German heritage, it remains in business today as a family gathering spot that offers nine-pin bowling and a dance hall.

The Jupe family purchased 205 acres bordered by W. W. White Road, Rigsby Avenue then named New Gonzalez Road, the Rosillo Creek, and the Schmidt property which is now Sinclair Road in 1914. Most of the land was farmland in the early 1900s. In the 1950s and 1960s, Alois and Joe Jupe platted and built most of the homes in the Jupe Addition Subdivision. The Jupe family developed businesses along Rigsby Avenue which included the first feed mill named Louis Feed Mill and the first lumber yard named Jupe Lumber Yard now known as Guadalupe Lumber. The Rauschubers who were cousins to the Jupes owned the first large grocery stores named the Ideal Super Market on Rigsby.

Another part of the Dellcrest Area was once owned by John R. Rice who subdivided his property amongst his heirs which included Annie Lord, Mattie Rice, Ordell Rice, Callie Rice Glass, Susan Conaway, Alice Schroeder, and Elias Rice in 1918. Hein Road is named after Henry Hein who platted and developed twenty lots on Hein Road in 1927.

The Granieri Farm, approximately 172.5 acres, located along Roland Avenue has been owned and farmed by the Granieri family since 1925. The Granieris who emigrated from Italy and arrived in America at Ellis Island later settled in the Eastern Triangle. According to Mary Ann Granieri, "Our family has always been agriculture, truck farming and in the dairy business." The Granieris closed their dairy when pasteurization was instituted in the 1950s. As third and fourth generation farmers, the Granieris have kept the family tradition going by continuing to provide vegetables, hay, and cattle. Today, local customers drive to the family farm to purchase in-season vegetables and hay almost everyday of the week.

Orchard Road was once surrounded by acres of peach and pecan trees, as well as grapevines, which were planted mainly to the north of the road. In the late 1940s, there was a severe hail storm that destroyed most of the peach crop. After the relentless storm, the peach trees slowly began to disappear. In addition to the peach, pecan, and grape crops, cotton, wheat, and a variety of vegetables were grown along Rigsby. The first area annexed into the City was in 1944. Approximately 1.4 acres of the most western tip of the Eastern Triangle were annexed as part of 1,045 acres that were brought into the city limits.

In the 1950s, Rice Road was more of a rural road, with an open ditch that ran alongside the street. The Houston Terrace Church was first located where the Normandy Terrace Nursing Home is currently on Rice Road in the early fifties and later moved to Schumacher and Rice Road. There was one drug store on W. W. White, Valdez Pharmacy, and two doctors, Dr. Jameson and Dr. Gregory, in the area. Later, Huntleigh Park Pharmacy opened. Another very large annexation took place in September 1952 when more than 2,700 acres of the Eastern Triangle were brought into the city limits in association with the annexation of the area around Fort Sam Houston. Five years later, in 1957, there was another large annexation of approximately 2,200 acres that extended the city limits line to the southeastern portion of Loop 410 that

extends through the Eastern Triangle. Also in 1957, the James Whitcomb Riley Elementary-Junior High School opened.

Change began to come to the area as time passed and the urban growth in the San Antonio area pushed toward the Eastern Triangle area. Mary Kopecki, a fifty year resident of the Eastern Triangle relates, "Salado Creek flows through the Eastern Triangle area and the bridge on Rice Road was barely above the flowing creek. Children going to what was then called Nebraska Elementary had to go through East Houston to get to school. Though the City eventually built a sidewalk, it was a very dangerous situation. I contacted people living west of the creek about getting a bridge built over Salado by extending Nebraska to W. W. White. Reverend Callies and I got signatures to present to City Council. When we presented our concern we were told that was a hundred-year flood. We informed them that there were two hundred-year floods in one year and that the safety of our children was in jeopardy." In 1975 under the leadership of Reverend R. A. Callies, the Freedom Bridge connecting the Wheatley Heights area and W. W. White neighborhoods was completed and Nebraska Street was renamed in honor of Martin Luther King. In 1982, James Whitcomb Riley Middle School was officially changed to Martin Luther King Middle School. The middle school was later changed to the Martin Luther King Academy. Sam Houston High School used to be located off of Holmgreen. After the high school relocated to Houston Street, it was remade into Jeff Davis Junior High School. The junior high was later moved to Nebraska Street and the school became Henry Carroll Elementary School. In 2008, Henry Carroll Elementary School was closed due to low enrollment.

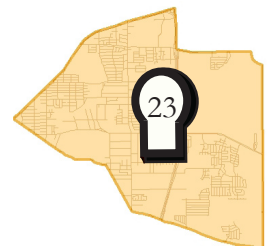
The 1960s and 1970s saw few annexations with approximately 100 acres being annexed over the two decades. In the 1980s, the city limits were extended to and in some areas past Rosillo Creek and brought approximately 1,900 more acres of the Eastern Triangle into the corporate city limits. Dan Martinez recalls, "It was 1983 when I purchased the nearly two acres of property where my home is now and the main selling point in buying the house was because of the large tracts of land in the area. The tranquility of the area and the long established families living in this unique rural neighborhood within walking distance of a business corridor with retail outlets and service businesses was also attractive."

There are a number of religious institutions that have played a major role in bringing community members together in the Eastern Triangle area. Two of which are the Emmanuel A.M.E Church and St. Benedict's Catholic Church. Emmanuel AME was organized in 1917 on the corner of Hackberry Street and then Nebraska Street. The first building was a small shed and remained nameless until 1918. Under the leadership of Reverend Drinkard Timms, Jr., the church grew and he was informed that there was land for sale in the Dellcrest neighborhood. The purchase of this property marked the beginning of Emmanuel AME Church's life in the Eastern Triangle. In October 1982, Reverend Michael W. Gibson took on leadership of the church and initiated construction of the church at its current location. The first worship service was held in the new facility on December 8, 1985. In November 1992, Colonel IV Tolbert, USAF Chaplain, became pastor of the church. Under Reverend Tolbert's leadership the church purchased additional acreage adjacent to the church and began, and completed, construction on the current facility with the first worship service being held in June 2005. In November 2008, the current pastor, Reverend Chuma Okoli, became the pastor of Emmanuel AME Church.



The newly constructed Emmanuel AME Church located off of Semlinger.

In 1958, St. Benedict's Catholic Parish was erected under the leadership of Father Robert Schmidt taken from the parishes of St. Gerard and St. Patrick with approximately 700 families. "Work and Pray" became the adopted motto of the parish. The first Parish Festival was held in Comanche Park on April 12, 1959. In the fall of that year, the Benedictine Sisters







*We'll See You At...*  
**ST. BENEDICT'S**  
**Groundbreaking Ceremony**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 1959**  
 AT 1:00 P.M.  
 BISHOP STEPHEN A. LEVEN, PRESIDING  
**MEXICAN DINNER**  
 11:00 A.M. — 5:00 P.M.  
 ADULTS 75¢ CHILDREN 50¢  
 GAMES AND REFRESHMENTS  
*You'll All Come To*  
**4538 LORD ROAD**  
(400 feet east of Loop 13, midway between Highway 90 and Highway 87)

Announcement for the groundbreaking for St. Benedict's Church and School in 1959

began teaching at the newly constructed school to 175 enrolled pupils for grades first through third. The following year, the school added ten additional classrooms and expanded to include grades first through eighth with approximately 550 students. Kindergarten was added in 1962. In 1967, St. Benedict's School reached its peak with 1,017 students. The parish reached its peak the following year with 1,443 registered families. In the 1970s, the number of parishioners and students began to decline. By 1980, the parish consisted of approximately 1,006 families and approximately 309 students. In 2009, St. Benedict's will celebrate its 50th anniversary under the current leadership of Father Eddie Bernal.

In October 1998, a catastrophic flood inundated the Salado Creek damaging and in some instances destroying many of the homes in its surrounding area. Wheatley Heights Baptist Church which had stood for thirty-five years was destroyed by five feet of water. In 1999, voters approved a bond for low water

crossings and to develop flood control projects on Salado Creek and Leon Creek. In Wheatley Heights alone, the city has acquired more than 350 properties and demolished over 100 houses. The area is currently being redeveloped as part of the Salado Creek Greenway. In 2008, Bexar County voters also approved a venue tax to add a sports complex.

Today, the Eastern Triangle is a diverse community with a rich history that has stood the test of time and natural disaster to become a community full of promise for the future. In celebration of its diversity and strength, the Eastern Triangle plays host to the largest Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration in the nation, with approximately 100,000 people marching in the 2009 parade. Though the holiday is only one day, the festivities honoring the civil rights icon are spread throughout the week. The march starts at Martin Luther King Freedom Bridge and ends at Pittman-Sullivan Park. Other events that take place include sports events, worship services, and scholarship presentations designed to honor the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. and unite the community.



Arm and arm City leaders march in the 2009 Martin Luther King, Jr. March, on Martin Luther King Boulevard

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